



From language acquisition to professional translation and phonetic transcription to musical coaching, Katja Parmar does it all – and she does it all exceedingly well. I have worked with Katja in a variety of capacities, and recommend her highly to any student, musician, artistic administrator, or intendant.

As a language teacher, Katja has a veritable plethora of strengths. I have found that her two greatest pedagogical gifts are her ability to explain subject matter in a variety of ways to accommodate different learning styles; and, her ability to be both gentle and honest with adult language learners. I was her German language student from September 2017 through July 2019, and she brought me from A1 Level to B2 Level with, on average throughout each year, one to two hours of one-on-one instruction per week. I prepared for the Goethe Institut tests with her, and she accommodated my unique needs in every capacity. I took the B1 Test first, and – in addition to completely preparing me for the exam – she was a boundless source of support and encouragement in the months leading up to the test, the day of the test, and in the days afterwards as I waited for my results. I have since passed the B2 Exam as well! If you are serious about learning German and are willing to work hard, studying with Katja is, in my opinion, a rewarding and efficient way to learn German fluently. That said, if you are interested in learning German for fun and at a more relaxed pace, Katja's warm personality and creative pedagogical methods will make for an enjoyable and confidence-boosting adventure.

In addition to her extraordinary DaF teaching abilities, Katja and I co-authored a book together, a translation and phonetic transcription of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck*, and I found her to be a consummate professional and an absolute joy to work with. She submitted her edits in a timely manner (quite frequently well before each deadline), she was open to my contributions and interpretations, and she was well-prepared and -researched every time we met to edit the resource together. I was deeply impressed with her keen attention to detail, and I was inspired by her relentless pursuit of answers to our questions regarding the source text.

I was also fortunate to work with Katja as a German language coach, and my performance and confidence both skyrocketed after only a few sessions with her. As a trained singer and native German speaker, Katja is the hallmark of language coaches: she seeks to provide feedback that allows the singer to incorporate a more authentic pronunciation and inflection within the scope of the singer's unique vocal technique, and this teaching style of hers is successful in empowering, rather than criticizing, the singer. Katja has the distinctive ability of breaking the tools of linguistic expression down into "bite-sized" technical aspects that can be applied globally for immediate improvement in performance. Her attention to detail carries over from her work as an editor into her work as a coach, and the integrity of her work, her enthusiasm for the German language, and her knowledge of vocal and operatic repertoire is utterly beyond compare. She has high standards and an exacting ear, and any student who is both open-minded and committed to excellence will benefit significantly from her guidance.



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